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Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-9. (Cancelled)

10. (New) A method of evaluating a node of a communication network, comprising the steps of:

determining a capacity of the node based on a traffic model comprising at least one relationship between at least one application type and at least one rate of information being conveyed through the node; and

taking at least one preventive measure responsive to the determined capacity indicating a potential overload condition at the node.

11. (New) The method of claim 10, comprising

determining a plurality of relationships for a plurality of different application types at each of a plurality of different information rates; and

determining the traffic model from a combination of the determined relationships.

12. (New) The method of claim 10, comprising

determining the capacity of the node based upon a current processor occupancy of at least one processor at the node.

13. (New) The method of claim 10, comprising

determining the at least one relationship as a mathematical equation describing a relationship between processor occupancy of at least one processor at the node and the at least one application type at the at least rate of information.

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14. (New) The method of claim 10, comprising

determining a plurality of mathematical equations each describing a relationship between processor occupancy of at least one processor at the node and at least one application type at at least one information rate; and

determining the traffic model as a linear combination of the determined mathematical equations.

15. (New) The method of claim 10, wherein the communication network comprises a wireless communication network.

16. (New) The method of claim 15, comprising

determining a processor occupancy of at least one processor at the node from a traffic model comprising a linear combination of a plurality of mathematical equations, each describing a particular relationship between an information rate of a particular application type and a resulting processor occupancy.

17. (New) The method of claim 16, wherein the at least one processor processes subscriber information.

18. (New) The method of claim 15, comprising

determining the capacity of the node by determining a processor occupancy of a processor at the node for an uplink and a downlink of the processor.

19. (New) A computer readable medium containing a plurality of computer executable instructions, comprising:

a first set of instructions for determining at least one relationship between at least one application type and at least one rate of information conveyed through a communication network node;

a second set of instructions for determining a traffic model based upon the at least one determined relationship; and

a third set of instructions for determining a capacity of the node of the communication network based on the determined traffic model.

20. (New) The computer readable medium of claim 19, comprising

a set of instructions for determining a plurality of relationships, each relationship corresponding to at least one application type and at least one information rate; and

a set of instructions for combining the determined relationships to thereby determine the traffic model.

21. (New) The computer readable medium of claim 19, comprising

a set of instructions for determining a processor occupancy of at least one processor at the node and using the determined processor occupancy for determining the capacity of the node.

22. (New) The computer readable medium of claim 19, comprising

a set of instructions for determining at least one mathematical equation describing at least one relationship between a processor occupancy of at least one processor at the node and at least one application type at at least one information rate.

23. (New) The computer readable medium of claim 19, comprising:

a set of instructions for determining the traffic model as a linear combination of a plurality of mathematical equations describing relationships between processor occupancy of at least one processor at the node and application types at selected information rates.

24. (New) The computer readable medium of claim 19, comprising

a set of instructions for determining a processor occupancy for an uplink and a downlink of at least one processor at the node.